

*BS*  
*concl.*

and a specific gravity of less than 1.4. The intermediate layer is formed of an ionomer resin and has a thickness of at least 1 mm (0.03937 inches), a specific gravity of less than 1.2, and a hardness of at least 85 on JIS C (Shore C) scale. The specific gravity of the intermediate layer is less than the specific gravity of the center core. The cover layer has a thickness of 1 to 3 mm and is softer than the intermediate layer. --

### IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, under the heading "Field of the Invention", delete the entire first paragraph and replace it with:

-- This application is a divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/631,613 filed on April 10, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,803,831, which in turn is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/591,046 filed on January 25, 1996, now abandoned, and U.S. Application Serial No. 08/542,793 filed on October 13, 1995, now abandoned, which in turn is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application 08/070,510 filed June 1, 1993, now abandoned, and U.S. Application No. 08/542,793 filed October 13, 1995, now abandoned, which is a continuation of 08/070,510, now abandoned. -- *PL*

### REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed April 14, 1999, the Examiner objected to the drawings, a description of related applications in the specification, and the abstract. Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. And, claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a). Each of these matters are addressed below.

Applicants appreciate the careful and thoughtful review of this application by the Examiner.

#### **A. Objection to Abstract has been Remedied**

The Examiner objected to the abstract on grounds that the abstract must include more informative structural details as to the point of novelty. Applicants herewith submit a revised abstract for incorporation in the present application. Accordingly, this ground of rejection is believed to have been remedied.